

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



Issued by the
NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending May 21, 2000

Issue: 12-2000

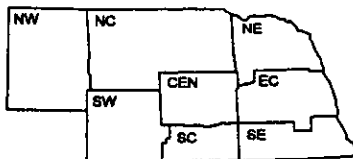
Released: 5/22/2000 3:00 p.m.

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures across the entire State averaged within one to two degrees of normals for this time of year. Welcome precipitation occurred across the State with amounts ranging from traces to three and fifty-seven hundredths inches at Niobrara.

GENERAL

Rains received mid-week were beneficial to crops and pastures, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rainfall amounts varied with largest amounts in the northern half of the State. Other producer activities included spraying for insects and irrigating crops.

CROPS

The Winter Wheat crop declined slightly to 6% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 43% good, and 2% excellent. As of Sunday, 95% of the crop had jointed, just ahead of last year's 94% but well ahead of the five-year average at 84%. About 68% of the crop had headed, two weeks ahead of the 5 year average. Damage from the freeze on May 12 had not been fully determined. Some reports indicate that harvest results will "tell the story".

Corn planting was virtually completed as of Sunday, about a week and a half ahead of last year and three weeks ahead of average. Emergence at 85%, was also well ahead of last year at 38% and the average at 43%. Reports indicated producers spraying

CROPS Cont.

for corn flea beetles. Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, and 8% excellent.

Soybean planting again made excellent progress last week with 82% completed by week's end. This completion rate was two to three weeks ahead of last year's 25% and the average at 35%. About 44% had emerged as of Sunday, well ahead of last year at 2% and average at 7%.

Sorghum planting progressed to 56% seeded to date, also well ahead of last year at 10% and the average at 24%. About 21% had emerged.

Oat condition improved slightly and rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 37% fair, 41% good, and 6% excellent

Dry bean planting made good progress last week and was reported at 11% complete.

Alfalfa harvest continued across the State, reports indicated poor growth due to a lack of moisture. About 16% of the first cutting has been harvested. Condition of the crop was rated at 9% very poor, 17% poor, 38% fair, 34% good, and 2% excellent. Wild hay condition rated 5% very poor, 17% poor, 53% fair, 24% good, and 1% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition improved slightly to 12% very poor, 26% poor, 43% fair, and 19% good. The recent rainfall was a benefit to pastures where received, although other areas continued to experience slow grass growth.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 21, 2000		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS							STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE	
		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC					SE
PERCENT													
% Wheat Jointed		89	99	79	95	90	100	100	100	95	90	94	84
% Wheat Headed		36	64	20	33	60	94	68	92	68	23	22	11
% Corn Planted		90	97	99	99	99	94	99	99	98	94	84	84
% Corn Emerged		57	81	81	85	94	70	84	94	85	58	38	43
% Soybeans Planted		n/a	76	78	85	78	69	94	91	82	59	25	35
% Soybeans Emerged		n/a	47	27	36	52	15	60	54	44	16	2	7
% Sorghum Planted		n/a	38	29	69	25	42	62	64	56	22	10	24
% Sorghum Emerged		n/a	18	15	35	16	12	24	22	21	3	0	0
% Alfalfa First Cutting		10	2	11	18	27	2	26	51	16	3	1	0
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 19, 2000													
Days Suitable		46	49	55	62	60	65	65	67	58	63	30	
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	0	3	14	12	36	22	31	55	22	28	0	
	- Short	1	25	28	63	48	47	44	30	36	41	1	
	- Adequate	89	72	47	25	16	31	25	15	40	31	72	
	- Surplus	10	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	27	
Subsoil Moisture-	- Very Short	0	14	33	21	67	27	56	79	39	47	0	
	- Short	8	43	57	59	31	44	42	18	39	33	3	
	- Adequate	92	43	9	20	2	29	2	3	22	19	81	
	- Surplus	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	

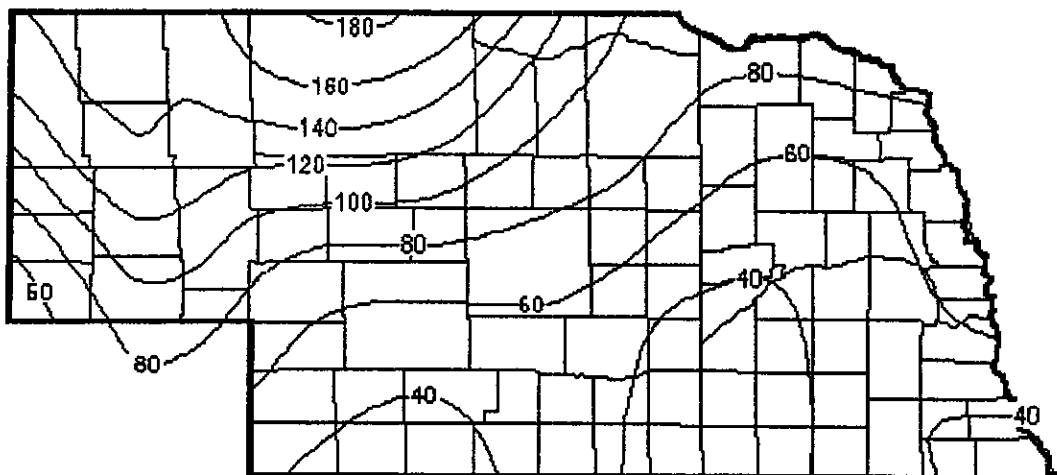
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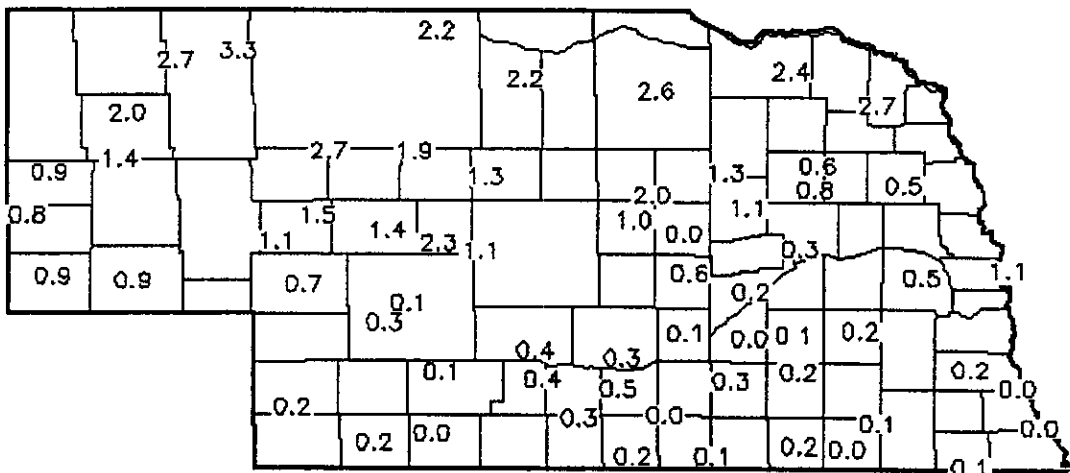
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Lincoln, NE 68501

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (USPS 679-770, ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March in Lincoln, Nebraska, and from other additional offices, by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

PRECIPITATION AS % OF NORMAL APRIL 1 - MAY 21, 2000



PRECIPITATION IN INCHES FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 21, 2000



Source: High Plains Climate Center

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 21, 2000

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.61	1.84	2.14	.59	.68	.17	.22	.23
Total since April 1	6.99	3.88	4.00	2.79	2.82	2.12	2.02	2.13
Normal since April 1	3.77	4.32	4.87	4.79	5.44	4.00	4.62	5.40
Total as % of normal	185%	90%	82%	58%	52%	53%	44%	39%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2000

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	83	33	55	---	1.70	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	83	36	56	-1	.76	195	365	300
	Sidney	80	32	52	---	.96	210	360	308
NC	Valentine	82	32	56	-2	2.18	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	173	349	324
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	202	378	342
NE	Norfolk	80	35	60	-1	.55	---	---	---
	Sioux City	82	38	60	-2	1.43	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	221	411	345
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	206	380	349
CEN	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	229	422	365
	Grand Island	81	39	61	-1	.25	203	411	356
	Ord	82	36	58	---	1.02	191	389	352
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	192	398	354
EC	Lincoln	83	41	63	+1	.28	244	459	383
	Omaha	82	46	63	+1	1.58	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	218	424	359
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	231	444	378
SW	Imperial	84	36	58	---	.04	---	---	---
	North Platte	80	32	58	0	.29	211	415	338
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	192	406	344
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	165	395	353
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	193	456	360
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	226	440	383
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	206	412	358

n/a - Not Available

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp. + m average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska